

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 OSLO 02746 051236Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-07 SP-02
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /138 W
-----074993 051320Z /41

R 051117Z JUNE 78
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5935
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

UNCLAS OSLO 2746

PARIS FOR USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, EIND, NO
SUBJ: ESSO TO ASSIST STATOIL ON QUOTE GOLD BLOCK UNQUOTE

1. ESSO EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION, NORWAY, INC. (SUBSIDIARY OF EXXON, USA) HAS WON THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CONTRACT FOR EXPLORATION ON THE NORWEGIAN SHELF'S QUOTE GOLD BLOCK UNQUOTE (34/10) IN COMPETITION WITH OTHER MAJOR INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANIES. (PRESS REPORTS SAY THAT SHELL, ELF, AND MOBIL WERE AMONG THOSE LEFT IN THE FINAL ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS.) THE STATE-OWNED OIL COMPANY STATOIL WILL CONDUCT THE EXPLORATION, BUT WILL DRAW HEAVILY UPON ESSO'S EXPERTISE AND NORTH SEA RESEARCH MATERIALS. DRILLING COULD BEGIN AS EARLY AS LATE JUNE.

2. COMMENT: THE ARRANGEMENT MEANS LESS TO ESSO AS A SERVICE CONTRACT THAN IT MEANS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE ABILITY TO WORK WITHIN THE NORWEGIAN RULES OF THE GAME WITH STATOIL. IT IS GENERALLY BELIEVED IN GON AND INDUSTRY CIRCLES THAT WHOEVER
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PAGE 02 OSLO 02746 051236Z

WON THIS CONTRACT WOULD BE IN A STRONG POSITION TO WORK WITH STATOIL AGAIN ON THE SAME BASIS IN ANY DEVELOPMENT PHASE FOR THE GOLD BLOCK AND POSSIBLY NORTH OF THE 62 PARALLEL WHEN EXPLORATION BEGINS NEXT YEAR OR IN 1980. STATOIL DOES NOT AND WILL NOT HAVE THE CPACITY AND EXPERTISE TO HANDLE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ON ITS OWN FOR SOME TIME (ALTHOUGH IT WILL

BE QUOTE OPERATOR UNQUOTE IN SOME CASES) AND WILL DRAW
HEAVILY ON INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANY ASSISTANCE.LERNER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONTRACTS, EXPLORATION, OILS, PRODUCTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978OSLO02746
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780234-0371
Format: TEL
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197806111/aaaafmrj.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: b9274f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: ESSO TO ASSIST STATOIL ON QUOTE GOLD BLOCK UNQUOTE
TAGS: EIND, ENRG, NO, US, ESSO EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b9274f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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